

J. N. B.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
Cottingham Urban District
For the Year 1909.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Cottingham Urban District, for the year 1909.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cottingham Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1909 the number of deaths registered in your district was 53 as against 60 in 1908, 48 in 1907, 60 in 1906, and 53 in 1905, being at the rate of 12.4 per thousand of the population.

The following were the ages at which the deaths took place:—

Under One Year	...	...	...	...	6	against 17 in 1908
1 Year and under 5	...	...	...	...	5	„ 3 „
5 Years and under 15	...	...	...	...	nil	„ nil „
15 Years and under 25	...	...	...	...	2	„ 3 „
25 Years and under 65	...	...	...	...	17	„ 19 „
Over 65 years	...	...	...	...	23	„ 18 „
TOTAL				...	<u>53</u>	„ <u>60</u> „

The causes of the deaths and the ages were as follows:—

				AGED		
January—3	{	Infective Enteritis and Con-				
		vulsions...	...	male	...	1 month (Inquest)
		Heart Disease	...	female	...	69 years
		Heart Disease	...	female	...	78 years
February—6	{	Convulsions	...	female	...	6 months
		Strangulated Hernia	...	male	...	77 years
		Cancer of the Liver	...	male	...	69 years
		Cirrhosis of the Liver	...	female	...	79 years
		Accidental Death	...	female	...	94 years (Inquest)
		Pneumonia	...	female	...	66 years

March—7	{	Ulcerated Leg and Heart					
		Failure	male	64 years			
		Heart Disease	male	71 years			
		Diphtheria	male	2 years			
		Pneumonia	male	73 years			
		Cancer of the Pylorus ...	male	57 years			
		Epilepsy	male	37 years			
	{	Measles and Broncho-					
		Pneumonia	female	9 months			
April—3	{	Embolism	female	58 years	(Inquest)		
		Accidental Death	male	39 years	(Inquest)		
		Pneumonia and Pericarditis	male	47 years			
May—5	{	Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	male	22 years			
		Erysipelas	male	24 days			
		Acute Phthisis	female	54 years			
		Measles	female	13 months			
		Heart Disease	male	47 years			
June—1		Cancer of the Uterus ...	female	51 years			
July—4	{	Dentition and Bronchitis...	female	13 months			
		Pneumonia	male	78 years			
		Natural Causes—Syncope	male	45 years	(Inquest)		
		Cancer of the Stomach ...	female	55 years			
August—7	{	Cerebral Embolism	male	86 years			
		Pneumonia	female	87 years			
		General Decay	male	78 years			
		Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	male	24 years			
		Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	female	47 years			
		Dentition and Convulsions	female	11 months			
		Paralysis and Pneumonia...	male	71 years			
September—2	{	Cancer of Bladder	male	78 years			
		Heart Failure	female	73 years	(Inquest)		
October—6	{	Pneumonia	male	24 years			
		Enteric Fever	female	64 years			
		Senile Decay	male	79 years			
		Measles and Pneumonia ...	male	2 years			
		Heart Disease	male	67 years	(Inquest)		
		Acute Nephritis	male	67 years			
November—2	{	Debility—Syncope	male	64 years			
		Incipient Pneumonia ...	female	2 years			
December—6	{	Old age	female	93 years			
		Heart Disease	male	70 years	(Inquest)		
		Atelectasis	female	2 days			
		Senile Decay	female	84 years			
		Heart Disease	male	45 years	(Inquest)		
		Influenza — Heart Failure	female	69 years			

From the foregoing table it will be seen that Heart Disease and Pneumonia were the causes of 19 of the deaths against 16 in 1908; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, or Phthisis, 4 against 5 in 1908; and Cancer 5 against 1 in 1908.

The Infantile mortality under one year was 6 as compared with 17 in 1908, and 13 in 1907, and 18 in 1906. This great reduction in the mortality amongst infants can be accounted for, first, by the better care and nursing of the children, and, secondly, that there has been no visitation of diarrhœa during the summer, as in previous years.

The number of Births registered in your district during the year was 99, viz., 52 boys and 47 girls, as against 100 in 1908, in which year the sexes were numerically equal.

The births are 46 in excess of the deaths.

There have been 56 cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year, viz:—

Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Membranous Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Continued Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
TOTAL ...							<u>56</u>

The inhabitants are mostly employed in market gardening, and in agricultural work, which proves to be a most healthy occupation seeing that 17 of the deaths occurred to persons over 70 years of age—three being over 84 and two over 90 years old at death.

The house accommodation for the working classes is daily improving, the houses being built with all modern conveniences and having a good supply of excellent water.

The public service of water supply is all that can be desired—good and plentiful—the source being mostly from the chalk many hundred feet below the surface, which is free from any risk of pollution.

The milk supply is good and wholesome. Most is produced in the village, some few dealers purchasing from dairies outside the village. The milk taken on the whole is good, the producers being much more particular

in getting the best animals they can, and being very careful as regards feeding and cleanliness, knowing that it pays the best. I have found the owners of cows far more particular about the state of the sheds and the feeding of the cows than they were a few years ago. There are in your district 64 registered cowsheds.

There has been one case of anthrax reported ; precautions were taken and the carcase was destroyed by burning.

Sewerage and drainage is very good in all parts of your district ; this year being an exceptionally wet one there has been some flooding, but not of any very great importance. The sewage and land drainage empties into the River Hull.

Excrement disposal : where there are privies and dry dust bins, these are emptied by the public scavengers two or three times a week, or as often as required. The material is at once carted outside the village and deposited on the land.

Schools : the public elementary school, which is controlled by the East Riding County Council, is in a sanitary condition, and well supplied with water. The health of the scholars is well looked after by the teachers, anything of a suspicious character being at once communicated to the Medical Officer of Health. It was found necessary to close the Infants' School from March 19th to April 9th on account of Measles and Influenza Colds, and the Girls' School was closed from March 22nd to April 9th, for Measles, Mumps, and Influenza Colds. The Boys' Department remained open.

We have no method in vogue here for the treatment of Infectious Diseases. Any infectious disease which may occur can, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, be removed to the city of Kingston-upon-Hull Fever or Smallpox Hospitals, as the Cottingham Urban District Council have entered into an agreement with the authorities so to do.

Slaughter-houses, eight in number, are all registered ; are clean and in good order ; and are well supplied with water. Anywhere that the Council have required alterations they have been complied with.

Bakehouses, eight in number, are all above ground ; are all retail ; are well suited for the purpose ; and are in a satisfactory condition.

The Carpenters' Shops, six in number, are well lighted and ventilated, and are in a satisfactory state.

The Blacksmiths' Shops, six in number, are well suited for the purpose, and are in a satisfactory condition.

The Milliners' and Dressmakers' business premises, eight in number, are in a sanitary condition, the air space being sufficient, the drainage good, and there is no overcrowding.

The other businesses which come under the head of the Factory and Workshops Act, viz.:

Plumbers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hairdressers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pork Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drapers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tailors' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shoemakers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

are in good condition and suitable for the purpose for which they are required.

With regard to Dunswell, the drainage is being gradually improved, there being great difficulty in this matter, as there is no proper outfall for the sewerage, the village lying so low. Since the black ditch in the centre of the village has been removed, and no house drainage runs through the village, the improvement is very marked.

There is still a ditch in close proximity to the main street, in which much stagnant water and filth remain. This certainly requires attention during the hot weather. There seems to be a difficulty in emptying this drain on account of the lowness of the surrounding land, and the property belonging to several different owners.

The water supply is good and plentiful, the supply coming from pumps.

The cowsheds are of a varied character, some being very good: these are the modern ones. The old ones are of the old-fashioned build, but as time goes on, these buildings will be much improved, as the proprietors find it is necessary to keep the animals in sheds with plenty of air space and light, and at the same time warm.

The Carpenter's Shop with Smithy adjoining are well adapted for the purpose for which they are used.

The School, which will accommodate some forty-three children, is under the East Riding County Council; is clean, and well ventilated and lighted; there is a good water supply. I have always found the school kept in a satisfactory condition. The master is always very obliging, by at once notifying the Medical Officer of Health if anything occurs which to him appears of an infectious nature among the scholars.

I am pleased to find that the Council have purchased a piece of land to widen a very dangerous corner in the centre of the village, where there is a great deal of traffic. This has been required for a long time.

There are no cases of Tuberculosis notified in this village. It is a strange statement to make, but it is many years since any one died from tuberculosis in Dunswell, though the country is low, flat, and damp.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

GEO. H. WATSON,

Medical Officer of Health to the

Cottingham Urban District Council.

February, 1910

